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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Sams et al.

Examiner: Eileen D. Lillis

Serial Number: 08/996,249

Group Art Unit: 3629

Filed: 12/22/97

For: TRIPOD BEARING ASSEMBLY

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 3600  
SEP 02 1999  
RECEIVED

**FIRST AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Applicants respond to the Office Action mailed on 5/26/99 (hereinafter referred to as the "Office Action") in the following manner:

Please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

On page six (6), line 11, please delete the word "describe" and insert the word "described" therefore.

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 6-9, and amend claim 3 as follows:

**Claim 3 (amended)**

a1 A spider assembly according to claim 2 further comprising a means for angularly retaining the bearing assembly to the trunion. B

**Substitute Drawings**

Applicants have submitted substitute drawings in response to the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review. A copy of the substitute drawings are attached and address each of the drawing objections included within the Office Action. These substitute drawings contain no new